

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Yukuo KATAYAMA

Group Art Unit: 3749

Application No.: 10/538,807

Examiner: K. RINEHART

Filed: June 13, 2005

Docket No.: 124237

For: METHOD FOR FEEDING A MIXTURE COMPRISING A BURNABLE SOLID AND WATER

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In reply to the December 17, 2007 Office Action, reconsideration of the rejection is respectfully requested in light of the following remarks.

Claims 1-24 are pending in this application. The Office Action, on page 5, indicates that claims 8 and 19 recite allowable subject matter. Specifically, the Office Action indicates that these claims would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the features of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicant appreciates this indication of allowability, but respectfully submits that at least independent claim 1, from which these claims directly or indirectly depend, is allowable for at least the reasons set forth below.

The Office Action, on page 2, rejects claims 1-7, 9-18 and 21-24 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 4,153,427 to Bissett et al. (hereinafter "Bissett") in view of U.S. Patent No. 3,476,494 to Buchanan et al. (hereinafter "Buchanan"). The Office Action, on page 4, rejects claim 20 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable